

Do This in Remembrance of Me, A Step by Step walk through the Mass
Part 50; Transubstantion

I often hear people ask why it is that, for so many priests, the Consecration is their favorite moment of the Mass. How exactly does the Consecration “work”?

Thanks for asking! Some years ago, I was in the midst of a large assignment by myself and was struggling with some health issues. I was working long days to try and cover all that was needed, but I felt myself regularly falling short. Around that time, I was gifted with a wonderful confession from one of our wise priests, who reminded me that the best and most important part of my day is always what happens at the altar. He said I could end the day with unfinished projects and unanswered messages, but if I prayed the Mass faithfully at the altar, then it will have been a great day. What great words of consolation!

At the moment of the Consecration and the elevation that follows, I am always reassured that I am exactly where I am supposed to be: I am answering the call God gave to me to serve as a priest. As we all are, I am a work in progress, and some days feel like much more progress is needed. However, in that moment of the Mass, I am always comforted and strengthened, humbled and invigorated. Because I can be a perfectionist, I don’t always receive compliments well; because I have a quick mind, I’m often thinking of problems to solve and things that need to be done. But in that moment of the Mass is true rest and peace. If you are like me and often have a preoccupied mind, I invite you in that special moment of the Mass to enjoy resting in his peace. Remind yourself that there is no better place to be in that moment than united with Jesus truly present on the altar.

How the Consecration Effects Transubstantiation

How exactly does the Consecration work? Let’s turn to our Catechism for some helpful wisdom. “It is by the conversion of the bread and wine into Christ’s body and blood that Christ becomes present in this sacrament. The Church Fathers strongly affirmed the faith of the Church in the efficacy of the Word of Christ and of the action of the Holy Spirit to bring about this conversion. Thus St. John Chrysostom declares: ‘It is not man that causes the things offered to become the Body and Blood of Christ, but he who was crucified for us, Christ himself. The priest, in the role of Christ, pronounces these words, but their power and grace are God’s. This is my body, he says. This word transforms the things offered’” (CCC, 1375). The Catechism tells us that the word of Jesus is what changes the bread and wine into his Body and Blood.

The Catechism continues, “The Council of Trent summarizes the Catholic faith by declaring: ‘Because Christ our Redeemer said that it was truly his body that he was offering under the species of bread, it has always been the conviction of the Church of God, and this holy Council now declares again, that by the consecration of the bread and wine there takes place a change of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord and the whole substance of the wine into the substance of his blood. This change the holy Catholic Church has fittingly and properly called transubstantiation’” (CCC, 1376). For many of us, transubstantiation can be a big and intimidating word. The reason we use words like these is that they help us describe with precision what we believe is true. Transubstantiation helps us know that the “what it is” is what changes during the Mass. As we said before regarding the gifts, what they are before the consecration is simple bread and wine. Those words of Jesus change the bread and wine into his Body and Blood. Even though the appearances remain, we believe that the whole Christ is present in the consecrated host and chalice. As our Catechism teaches, the reason we believe that Jesus is present is because Jesus said it. We believe him when he says: “This is my Body.” We believe him when he says “This is my Blood.” We believe that the Eucharist really is Jesus. The same Jesus who was born in Bethlehem, the same Jesus who offered himself on the Cross—Jesus is truly with us!

Seeing with Eyes of Faith

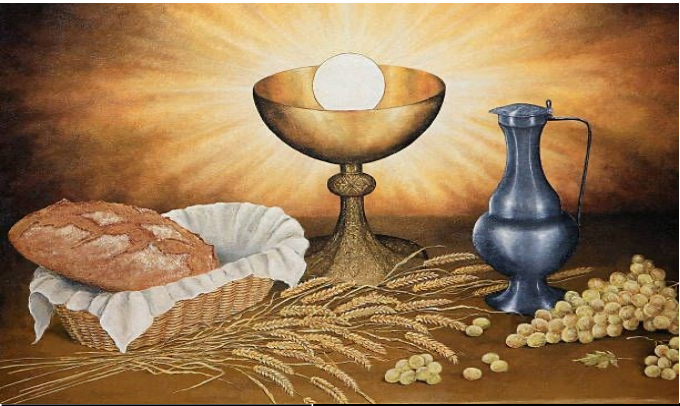
“But Father, the host still ‘looks’ the same!” some may say. St. Cyril of Jerusalem (314–386) teaches, “Do not think these are just plain bread and plain wine. They are the body and blood of Christ, as the Lord asserted. Faith must convince you of the latter even though your senses suggest to you the former. Do not judge about this according to your preferences but, based on your faith, believe with firmness and certainty that you have been made worthy of the body and blood of Christ” (Understanding the Mass, pp. 140–141). If your faith feels unsure, ask the Lord to help you see with the eyes of faith that he is truly there. Let the genuflections and reverence from your body help remind your mind of what we believe is true. Let the model of faith from the saints and the martyrs inspire you. Let our hearts be filled with joy after the consecration, and let us rejoice in recalling that Jesus is sacramentally present. Let us shout with joy the words of St. John, “It is the Lord!” (John 21:7).

For Reflection:

1. Study the Church’s teaching on Christ’s presence “under the Eucharistic species” in the Catechism, paragraphs 1373–1381, or even the entire section on the Eucharist (1322–1419). Consider inviting others to join you in this study to strengthen your faith in the Eucharist and participation at Mass. Consider checking out episodes 180–194 of Fr. Mike Schmitz’s Catechism in a Year, which leads listeners on a journey into the mystery of the Eucharist.
2. Bring St. John’s words, “It is the Lord!” (John 21:7), in your heart to Mass to seek and find Christ’s presence during the Consecration.

This article was written by Fr. Luke Spannagel and published on the National Eucharistic Revival Blog Webpage.

Baptisms:	Reconciliation	Marriage	Quincerañeras	Anointing of the Sick	Communion to the Sick / Homebound
By Appointment only	Confessions are heard on Saturdays from 4-5pm and on request	By appointment only: Contact parish office at least 6 months prior to proposed date.	Must be enrolled and actively participating in Religious Education Classes	Anytime: contact the parish office	Pastoral Visit: 1st Friday of the Month / Contact the parish office
Contact Parish office for more information					



Eighteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

August 4, 2024



Immaculate Conception Church
Roman Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi



"I am the bread of life;
whoever comes to me will never hunger,
and whoever believes in me will never thirst."
John 6: 35

Rev. Andrew Hejdak
Pastor

David D. Solis Jr.
david@iccgregory.org
Administrative Asst.

John Womack & Co.
Bookkeeper

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
10:00am - 4:30pm



FAITH FORMATION

Noreen Saenz
reoffice@iccgregory.org
Director of Religious Ed.

David D. Solis Jr.
Asst. Director of Religious Ed.

Religious Ed. Office Hours
Wednesdays 4:30 - 8:45pm

WEEKEND MASSES

SATURDAY (Vigil) 5:30PM
SUNDAY (en Español) 8:00AM
10:00AM & 12:00PM

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday (en Español) 5:30PM
Wednesday –Friday 8:30AM
First Friday of the Month
Eucharistic Adoration 5:30PM
Friday Daily Mass 6:30PM

WEEKLY PARISH
ACTIVITIES

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET
Daily 3:00 pm Chapel

ST. JUDE NOVENA
Tuesdays 6:00 pm

BIBLE STUDY
Tuesdays 7:00PM (Español)
Thursdays 7:00PM (English)
R.E. building

LA HORA DE DIOS
PRAYER GROUP
Fridays 6:00 pm Church



NEW TO THE PARISH?
Interested in registering with us?
Ask the ushers for a registration
form, welcome to the parish.
If you would like to become
involved with one of the
ministries or organizations here,
you can find contact numbers on
this bulletin

MASS INTENTIONS
ALL Mass intention requests should
be submitted to the parish office.
For Intentions to appear in the
Bulletin they must be submitted
by 4:00pm Tuesday.

Donation of \$5 per intention is suggested.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
CHAPEL

The Chapel is available to anyone 24/7
if you would like to spend time to visit
with Jesus in the Eucharist. To get the
door code contact the parish office or
Fr. Andrew.

PASTORAL COUNCIL VICE-CHAIR
Mike Lopez 438.9054

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Javier Solis 229.4653

SACRISTANS
Jesse Gomez 229.0102
Juan Rodriguez 229.5515
Raymond Flores 215.3542

CHOIR COORDINATOR
Naida Rios 774.3778

COMMUNION MINISTERS
Jesus Garza 704-2269

ALTAR SERVERS
David D. Solis Jr. 643.4505

ALTAR SOCIETY
Nena Garcia 774.2604

LECTORS
Jesus Garza 704-2269

USHERS
Ramiro Peña 222-8857

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE
Aurora Leal 229.6956

BLESSED MOTHER SOCIETY
Sylvia Gomez 228.0822

DIVINE MERCY APOSTLES
Sonya Torres 730.6165

HOUSE OF FAITH FOOD PANTRY
Diana Moreno 765.7696

Adriana Bernardo 543.7642

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
Nydia Tamez 688.0333

PRAYER & PRAISE GROUP
Jeronimo Garcia 704.2136

SACRED HEART SOCIETY
Amelia Flores 443.9811

ST. JUDE NOVENA
Jerry & Ofelia Rivera 876.7147



107 Church Street

facebook.com/ICGregory

Parish Office: 361-643-4505

PO Box 108

Gregory, TX 78359

www.iccgregory.org

Pastoral Emergency: 361-543-0503



Mass Intentions For The Week

SATURDAY August 3, 2024
5:30PM: †Guadalupe Moreno (Rudy Moreno)
Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Guadalupe (Minerva Lopez)

SUNDAY August 4, 2024
8:00AM: †Richard Ortiz (Family)
†Estefana Menchaca (M/M Manuel Menchaca Family)
†Jovita & †Lorenza Lara (Daniel Lara & Family)
†Gumercendo Montes & †Carmela Solis (Moreno Family)

10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Menchaca Family)
†Santos Garcia (Family)
†Maximino Acuña (Family)
†Eddie Perez (Family)
†Guadalupe & †Juanita Perales (Severo Perales)

12:00PM: †Janie Galvan (Family)
†Lelia Guzman (Family)
†Adrian G Flores (Family)
†Juan C Flores Jr. (Family)
†Maria Oralia Cavazos (Cavazos Family)
†Emilio Peña Sr. (Annette Freeman)
†Ray Villarreal Jr. (Family)
†Alfonso C & †Candelario C Zavala (Family)

TUESDAY August 6, 2024
5:30PM: Special Intentions for Deanna Maxwell

WEDNESDAY August 7, 2024
8:30AM: Special Intentions for Maria Campa-Garza

THURSDAY August 8, 2024
8:30AM: †Felicitas Solis (Solis Family)

FRIDAY August 9, 2024
8:30AM: Special Intentions for Lorman Family

SATURDAY August 10, 2024
5:30PM: †Guadalupe Moreno (James & Mona Lacour)
†Amelia Lopez Rodriguez (Solis Family)
†Francis Bill (Rose De La Cruz)
†Johnny & †Alejandro Lopez (Minerva Lopez)
Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Guadalupe (Minerva Lopez)

SUNDAY August 11, 2024
8:00AM: †Richard Ortiz (Family)
†Juana Garcia & †Herminia Lara (Daniel Lara & Family)
†Gumercendo Montes & †Carmela Solis (Moreno Family)

10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Menchaca Family)
†Santos Garcia (Family)
†Eddie Perez (Family)
†Martha Perales (Severo Perales)

12:00PM: †Janie Galvan (Family)
†Lelia Guzman (Family)
†Adrian G Flores (Family)
†Juan C Flores Jr. (Family)
†Maria Oralia Cavazos (Cavazos Family)
†Emilio Peña Sr. (Family)
†Ray Villarreal Jr. (Family)
†Alfonso C & †Candelario C Zavala (Family)


WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP	
Envelope Collection	\$1,742.00
Loose Collection	\$745.00
Children’s Collection	\$13.00
Online Giving	\$185.00
Collection Total - July 27/28	\$2,685.00

Thank you for your faithfulness, your generous support, and sharing of your gifts with Immaculate Conception Church.
May God bless you now and forever.


Special Collections for the Month of August

3/4 - Building Fund

15 - Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary Envelope



SCAN THIS QR CODE TO BE TAKEN TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE’S ONLINE GIVING PAGE





† Belief - Trust - Faith †

Prayer is the most powerful against trials, the most effective medicine against sickness and the most valuable gift to someone we care for.

Please pray for the sick of the parish, especially:

Names remain on the prayer list for two (2) months; after which they are removed, to add/remove a name contact the parish office.

Valerie Aleman,	Esmeralda Hernandez,	Sergio Rodriguez,
Victoria Arredondo,	Jorge Hernandez,	Yolanda G. Rodriguez,
Paula Avila,	San Juanita Hinojosa,	San Juanita Saenz,
Rafael Baez	Jaime Jimenez,	Bernice Sanchez,
Rosa Barrera,	Adolfo Menchaca Jr.,	Adan Salazar,
Elisa Claudio,	Alejandro Mora,	Gracie Salazar,
Johnny Cruz,	Anastacio Mora,	Raymond Smith,
Sandra Davila,	Noemilio Mora,	B Solis,
Adela Escobedo,	Augustin Moreno III,	Dora Tagle,
Aurora Flores,	Angie Ochoa,	Gloria Treviño,
Chris Flores,	Carmen Ortiz,	Joe Treviño,
Eudelia Flores,	Anita Peña,	Sara Treviño,
Guadalupe Flores,	Luis Peña Jr.,	Gerri Zambrano
Juanita Flores,	Jerry Rivera Sr.,	
Violet Guerrero,	Julia Rodriguez,	

NEXT WEEK’S MINISTERS SCHEDULE		
Sat. Aug. 10 Sun. Aug. 11	Lector 	Extra Ordinary Ministers 
5:30PM		Juan
8:00AM	Elisa	Pedro
10:00AM	Jenevieve	Raymond
12:00PM		Alma

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS WEEKEND

GOD’S WORK

We are so busy! Most of us have more than one job to do, and we never seem to have enough time. We are workers, volunteers, parents, friends, and most of us are more than one thing at a time. But which of these is the work of God?

We seldom view our ordinary work as being the work of God. We may think that we have to be ministers or priests, missionaries or charity workers, engaged full-time in works formally identified as being “God’s work.” But everything we do with a faithful heart and with love for others is God’s work. We each have our own role to fill in the world, and many gifts are necessary. We cannot always see the direct connection of our daily work to the plan of God. But we trust and we believe that God leads us to do what is needed, where it is needed. What is “God’s work?” “This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent” (John 6:29).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major
Jer 28: 1-17; Ps 119: 29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102; Mt 14: 13-21

Tuesday: The Transfiguration of the Lord
Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mk 9:2-10

Wednesday: St. Sixtus II and Companions; St. Cajetan
Jer 31:1-7; Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13; Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: St. Dominic
Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 16:13-23

Friday: St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross
Na 2: 1, 3; 3:1-3; 6-7; Dt 35: 35-36, 39,41; Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: St. Lawrence
2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2, 5-9; Jn 12:24-26

Sunday: Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Kgs 19:4-8; Ps 34:2-9; Eph 4:30 — 5:2; Jn 6:41-51

TRAVELING IMAGE OF DIVINE MERCY

In preparation for our centennial celebration in 2026, we have a image of Divine Mercy that will be traveling from home to home over the next several years. The mission of this is to pray for all our parish families. If you would like to have this image visit your home, see the sign-up book in the entry of the church. You are welcomed to sign up for it more than once. The sign-up sheet is currently listed through December. Currently the image is scheduled to be picked up at the church on Saturday or Sunday and dropped off back at the church by Saturday (around the time of confessions).


Pray for the following families that will be hosting the Traveling Divine Image this week

Juan & Sylvia Gomez

Special Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for August

For political leaders

We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.



EL TRABAJO QUE DIOS QUIERE

¡Estamos tan ocupados! Muchos de nosotros tenemos más de un trabajo y parecería que nunca tenemos suficiente tiempo. Somos trabajadores, voluntarios, padres, amigos y la mayoría es más de una cosa a la vez. Pero, ¿cuál de estos es el trabajo que Dios quiere?


Rara vez vemos nuestro trabajo común como el trabajo que Dios quiere. Quizás pensamos que debemos ser ministros o sacerdotes, misioneros o benefactores, que debemos realizar trabajos de tiempo completo que se consideran como “las obras de Dios”. Pero todo lo que hacemos con un corazón fiel y con amor por el prójimo es una obra de Dios. Cada uno tiene un papel que cumplir en el mundo y muchos dones son necesarios. No siempre podemos ver la relación directa que existe entre nuestro trabajo diario y los designios de Dios. Pero confiamos y tenemos fe en que Dios nos guía a hacer lo que es necesario, cuando es necesario. ¿Cuál es “la obra de Dios?” “La obra de Dios consiste en que crean en aquél a quien él ha enviado” (Juan 6:29).

CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

Every time you are tempted to complain this week, give God praise instead. For example, if you want to complain about being tired, give God thanks in quiet, silent prayer for breathing life into you today.

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday, August 15th is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is observed as a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 8:30am & 6:30pm



USHERS MEETING

The ushers will be having their monthly meeting **Tuesday, August 6th at 7:00PM** in the Religious Education Building.

If you are interested in joining the ushers ministry please make plans to attend or contact Ramiro Peña at 361-222-8857

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Registrations for Religious Education Classes for the 2024-2025 Catechetical Year will be on Wednesdays, August 14, 21, & 28 from 5-8pm in the Religious Education Building.

The first day of classes will be on Wednesday, September 4th.

BISHOP’S STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

Consider a recurring online pledge. Scan the QR code to be taken to the BSA website to learn more about the appeal.

